SPINNING.

[142] Throstles & Caps.

H64

Dec. 30, 1791.

William Howard ass. of Richard Arkwright

Spinning and Roving Cotton.

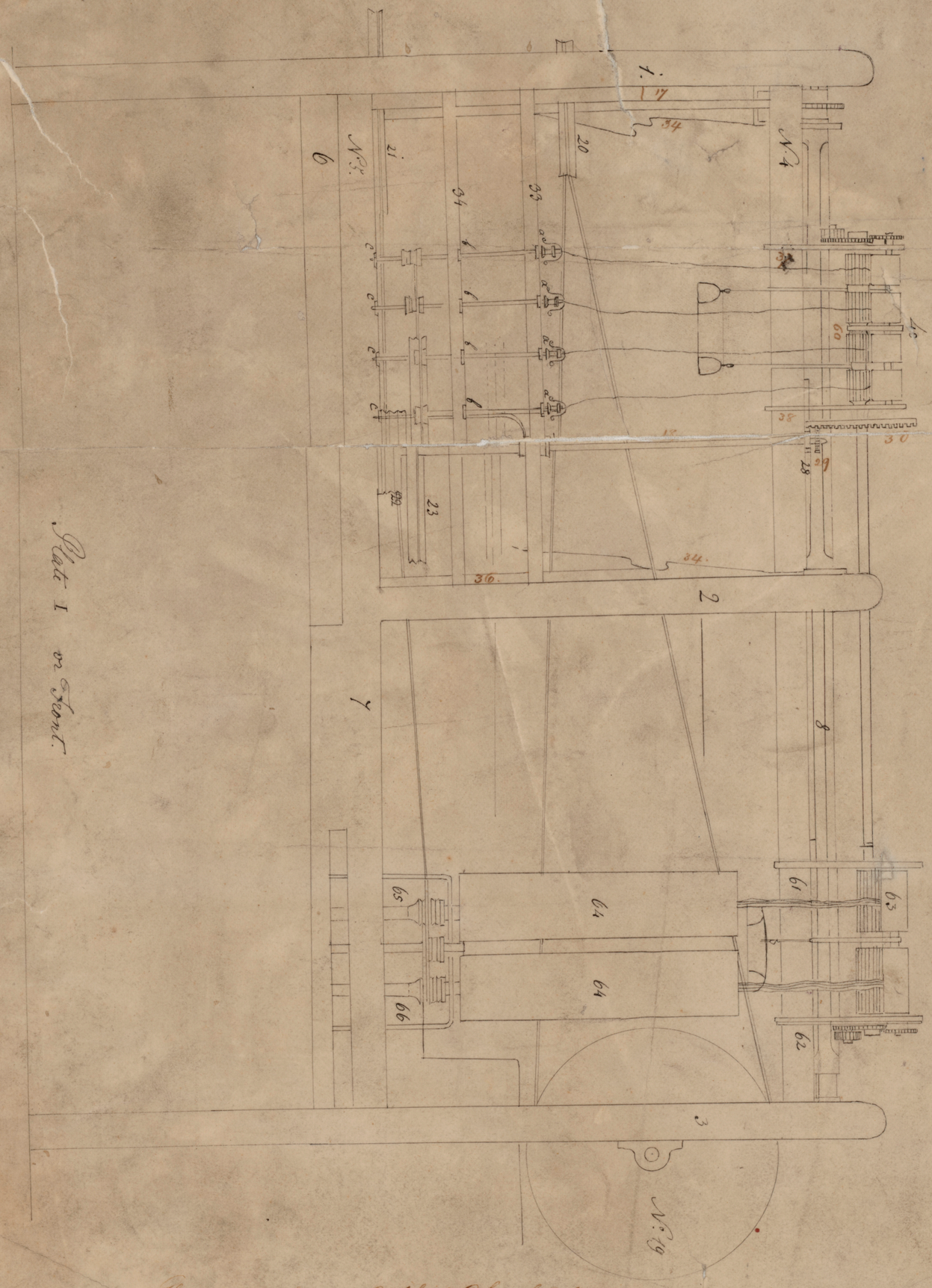
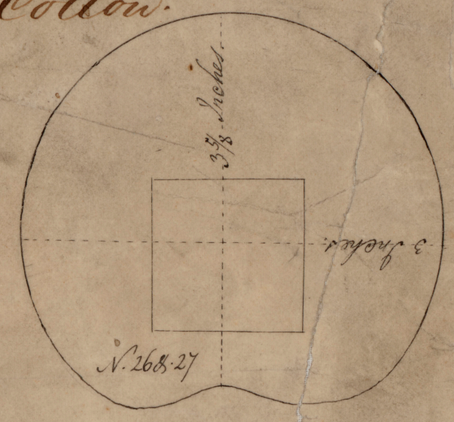


Plate I or Front View.



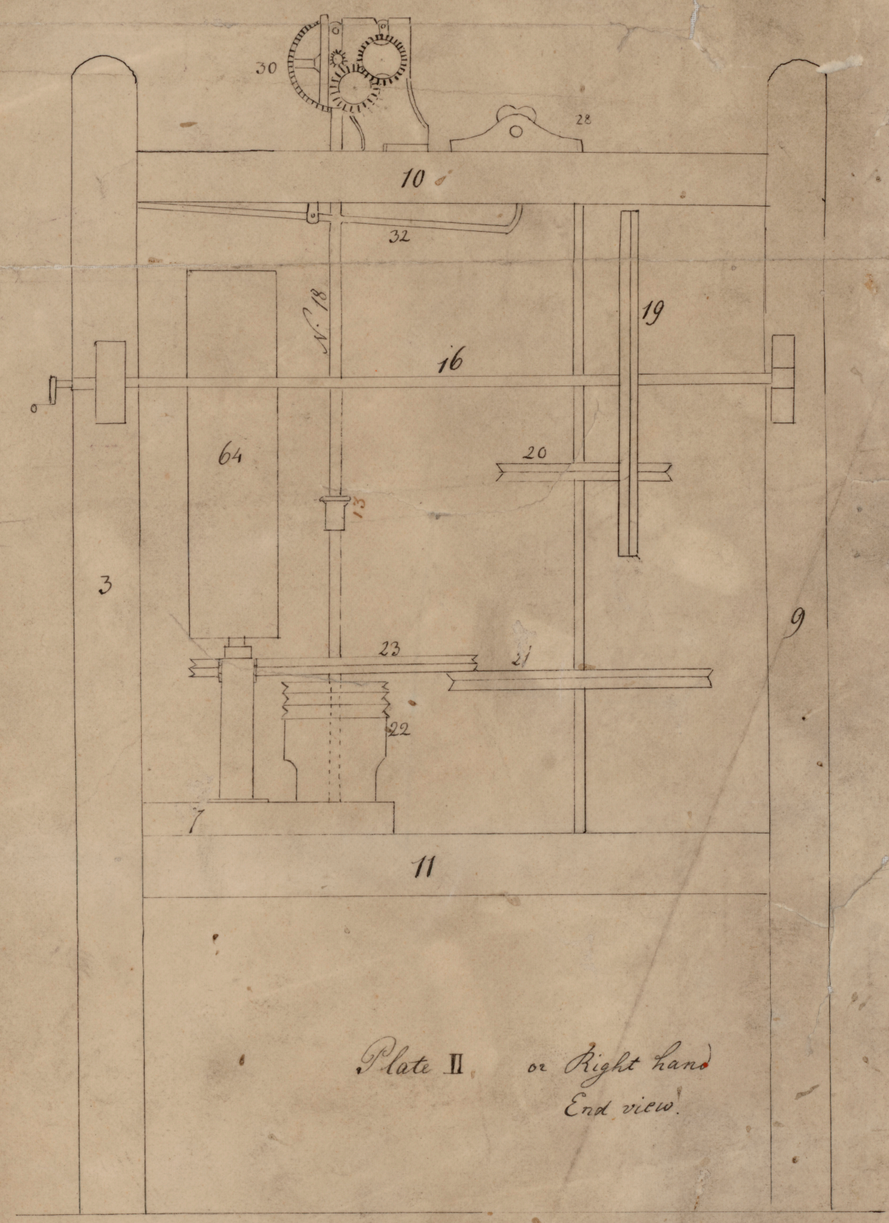


Plate II or Right hand End view.

This is a copie from a Certified Copy of a drawing attached to a Petition and Statement given by the Ass, May 28 1836, in Reference to the patent which was granted Dec 30 1791 and destroyed by the burning of the Patent Office.

(12) **United States Patent**
Pollard

(10) **Patent No.: X36**
(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 30, 1791**

(54) **SPINNING COTTON**

(76) Inventor: **William Pollard**

To the Honorable Thos Jefferson, Henry Knox, Edmd Randolph Esqrs.

The Representation & Petition of Wilm Pearce of Philadelphia respectfully sheweth

That your Petitioner about twelve months ago purchased a model of a machine for Reeving & Spinning of Cotton at the expence of several hundred pounds which was sold to him as a model of Sir Richard Arkwrights machine and was brought into this country at the risque of vessel & cargo & many amercaments on the Captain besides imprisonment & that as soon as your Petitioner obtained it, he procured to be made a machine (on a small scale) in just proportion in every respect to the said model but found it would not answer the purpose in consequence of this he wrote to the person he had purchased the model from on the 8th of October last and informed him that your petitioner had made a machine after the model but that it would not spin, and that it was evident some mistake had been made either by the workmen who made it or designedly but the Gentleman having obtained your Petitioners Bond for the model without any reference to the consideration for which it was given was not thought proper to favor your Petitioner with an answer but as he is informed has assigned the Bond over to a third Person. Your Petitioner having been bred in part a manufacturer & being some judge of Spinning & of yarn made such alterations in the machine from time to time as upon consultation with his workmen he found necessary until at length he brought a machine to perfection for the Reeving and Spinning of Cotton; that the model as purchased was compleat as he received it and that of your Petitioner is also compleat both are ready for inspection, the difference in them is visible and material Your Petitioners machine may be made to contain twenty spindles or twenty thousand if the steam or water or other power which is to work them will carry that number and the mill house will contain them

In order to come at some idea of the importance of these machines your petitioner begs leave to refer your board to a copy of a statement in Carys museum published in Philada for Octr 1788, and which from his knowledge of Manchester Cotton goods he conceives to be a reasonable statement it is as follows.

An account of the Cotton Mills in Great Britain from Estimates of the Cotton Manufactory of that Country.

One Hundred and forty three cotton mills are now built & in progress in Great Britain of which nearly two thirds have been erected within these five years. Besides these there are above 20,000 hand mills or jennies for spinning the thread for the twisted yarn spun by the water mills.

The expence of Water Mills is		Stg £715. 000
Expence of hand Jennies houses buildings & auxiliary machinery supposed at least		255. 000
The state of the raw materials & the progressive & astonishing increase of the manufacture will be best ascertained by what follows The Cotton & Wool applied to the manufacture was in	when manufactured supposed to be	
Year.	lb	
1781	5,101,929	Stg £9,000,000
1787	11,306,500	3,960,000
1783	9,546,179	3,900,000
1784	11,750,238	3,950,000
1785	17,992,888	6,900,000
1786	16,131,867	6,500,000
1787	22,000,000	7,500,000

From whence it appears that the cotton & wool applied to the hand and water machines in Great Britain in 1787 being 22,000,000 lb (worth in the raw state about £2,750,000 was worth when manufactured £7,500,000 yielding the immense profit to the owners of the Mills & Factories of £5,250,000.

It may be observed in the foregoing statement that the Raw Cotton & Wool is valued at about 1/11 sterly per lb cotton can be purchased here from 18d to 21d per lb Currt and in the Southern States where young negroes & cruelly disabled Men & Women are also put on a Burthen to their owners, they may in those Cotton mills be employed to advantage, and the same observation, may be extended to the poor white inhabitants in all our large towns, and your Petitioner conceives to ascertain exact manufactures which can have the aid of such machines may be completed in this Country as low as in England. One girl or boy from eight to fourteen years of age will tend from 30 to 50 spindles, & is necessary to have a man or woman to every ten children, to keep order no exertion of strength is required in the spinning apartment; It may be further observed on the con-

nfactured is only a little more than 6/7 pr. ℔ weight and calicoes are worth from 6/ to 10/ stg. pr. ℔ when finished & cord de Roys. Velvets, Velverets, Jeans, &c. are worth from 6/ to 9/ muslins from 6/ to 35/ stg. pr ℔ so that if the statement had been made on calico Goods as in your Petitioner conceives that the saving to the Country would have been much more considerable Your Petitioner therefore prays that in consideration of the expence & trouble he has been at in procuring the model of the English Machine, which nevertheless proved in a great degree useless, but more especially for the materials & effectual improvements & alterations made & discovered by him so as to perfect a machine which promises such extensive advantages to these United States & which he is now ready to lay a model before your board together with the model of the English Machine in order that the improvements and alterations may be fully seen & understood, that your honorable board will be pleased to grant him his heirs and assigns the sole and exclusive right and liberty of making constructing & using & of vending to others to be used the said machine for fourteen years & in order to convince the board that your petitioners wish is to encourage the raising a machine of such consequence to the Country & that he will not exhort a high price pr. spindle he will submit to the consideration of the board the price per spindle he shall demand after observing that the price pr spindle of the machine which Sir Richard Arkwright obtained a Patent for was five guineas & although his Patent is now expired your petitioner is well informed they are still sold for one guinea pr Spindle. a Patent has lately been granted in England to Messrs Henderson & Partners for a machine for spinning fine long combed wool these Gentlemen sell their spindles at 24/ stg pr spindle and that cheaper work is higher here than in England

And your Petitioner shall ever pray

Wm. Pollard

Philadelphia June 24th 1790.

Patent Office. May 25th 1836.

The above is a true Copy of Petition and Drawing

Henry S. Ellsworth
Superintendent

Exd. 1956

(Copy of Drawing made)

(1355 words)

Rec'd. & Recorded June 14, 1836.

United States Patent

Patent No.: **X36**